

44. Dating by Phone

Topic: Who isn't nervous making that first date phone call?

Cast:

TINA: the typical popular, self-confident girl

GREG: the typical unpopular, insecure guy

- 1 *(Scene takes place with TINA and GREG on opposite sides of*
- 2 *the stage, each on phones. No eye contact should be made.)*
- 3 TINA: Hello?
- 4 GREG: *(Voice wobbly)* Hello?
- 5 TINA: Hello?
- 6 GREG: Oh, um, *(Coughs)* hi.
- 7 TINA: Who is this?
- 8 GREG: Oh, it's Greg.
- 9 TINA: Greg?
- 10 GREG: Yeah.
- 11 TINA: *(Questioningly)* Do I know you?
- 12 GREG: Oh, yeah, sure. We're in art class together.
- 13 TINA: Oh. Are you the tall guy with the red hair?
- 14 GREG: No, I'm the short guy with glasses.
- 15 TINA: Oh.
- 16 GREG: I sit behind Brent.
- 17 TINA: *(Still obviously clueless)* OK.
- 18 GREG: You still have no idea who I am, do you?
- 19 TINA: Sorry. I'm trying to remember.
- 20 GREG: I know. I have one of those forgettable faces. Not
- 21 you, though.
- 22 TINA: Huh?
- 23 GREG: Your face. It's remember-able. I mean memora-bilia.
- 24 I mean you're beautiful.
- 25 TINA: *(Starting to frown into the phone)* Oh. Uh, thanks, I
- 26 think.

- 1 GREG: I'm sorry this is totally wrong.
- 2 TINA: What is?
- 3 GREG: The truth is I've been trying to get up the nerve for
- 4 like a month to talk to you at school.
- 5 TINA: *(Noncommittal)* Oh.
- 6 GREG: It's really hard for a guy like me to talk to a girl like
- 7 you.
- 8 TINA: What do you mean? What's a "girl like me"?
- 9 GREG: You know, smart, beautiful, popular. You always
- 10 have like two hundred people around you and a hundred
- 11 and ninety of them are boys.
- 12 TINA: That's not exactly true.
- 13 GREG: It's hard for a guy like me to approach someone like
- 14 you.
- 15 TINA: Well, what's a "guy like you"?
- 16 GREG: Not particularly smart, average looking, and only
- 17 popular with my dog.
- 18 TINA: I'm sure that's not true. Aren't you on student
- 19 council?
- 20 GREG: You *do* know who I am?
- 21 TINA: Yeah, I think so now.
- 22 GREG: *(Amazed)* Wow. You actually noticed me.
- 23 TINA: Well, aren't you that guy who stood up at the
- 24 assembly and asked Mrs. Krebs if she would let us have
- 25 a dress down day for Valentine's Day?
- 26 GREG: Yeah, that was me. Right.
- 27 TINA: Well, that was pretty brave.
- 28 GREG: *(Pleased)* You think?
- 29 TINA: Sure. It's hard to get up in front of everybody.
- 30 Especially Mrs. Krebs.
- 31 GREG: *(Becoming more comfortable)* Aw, she's not so bad.
- 32 She's nice.
- 33 TINA: *(Smiling)* I'm scared to death of her.
- 34 GREG: You shouldn't be. She's actually really nice. She
- 35 dropped a whole pile of papers in the hall once and I

1 stopped to help her. I've been golden ever since.
 2 TINA: That's cool. I'll have to remember that next time I'm
 3 tardy and get sent to her office. I'll bring you as a
 4 bodyguard.
 5 GREG: Love to. At your service. *(Pauses.)* Well, I guess you
 6 wonder why I called.
 7 TINA: Yeah, a little.
 8 GREG: I was going to ask you if you have a date to the
 9 Valentine's Day dance.
 10 TINA: *(No expression)* Oh.
 11 GREG: That doesn't sound like a good oh.
 12 TINA: What's a "good oh"?
 13 GREG: You know, like *(Pretending to swoon with joy)* Oh,
 14 darling Greg, I'd just *die of joy* to go to the dance with
 15 you.
 16 TINA: *(Laughs.)* What kind of oh was it?
 17 GREG: More like the *(Looking grossed out and bored)* how-in-
 18 the-world-am-I-gonna-get-off-the-phone-with-this-loser
 19 oh.
 20 TINA: *(Laughs again.)* You're funny.
 21 GREG: OK, what's the verdict? Oh A or Oh B?
 22 TINA: Well, to be honest —
 23 GREG: Here it comes.
 24 TINA: No, give me a minute. I was gonna say it was neither.
 25 You just caught me off guard.
 26 GREG: You already have a date.
 27 TINA: No, I don't.
 28 GREG: *(Amazed)* You don't? You're kidding?
 29 TINA: Is that so hard to believe?
 30 GREG: Yes! I mean, a girl like you —
 31 TINA: Yeah, yeah, whatever. All those "guys" you see
 32 around me all the time are just friends and wouldn't ever
 33 ask me to a dance.
 34 GREG: Does that mean a normal guy like me has a chance?
 35 TINA: I don't know if I'd call you normal, Greg.

1 GREG: *(Singing)* She remembers my name!
 2 TINA: Calm down, crazy boy. And the answer is yes.
 3 GREG: Yes?
 4 TINA: Yes, I'll go to the dance with you.
 5 GREG: You've got to be kidding!
 6 TINA: Are you taking back your invitation?
 7 GREG: *(Very excited)* No, no! This is terrific! This is
 8 awesome! This is completely unexpected and I have no
 9 idea what to say now.
 10 TINA: How about saying "Bye. I'll see you in art class
 11 tomorrow"?
 12 GREG: Yes! Bye, Tina. I'll see you in art class tomorrow.
 13 TINA: Good job. Bye. *(They hang up.)*